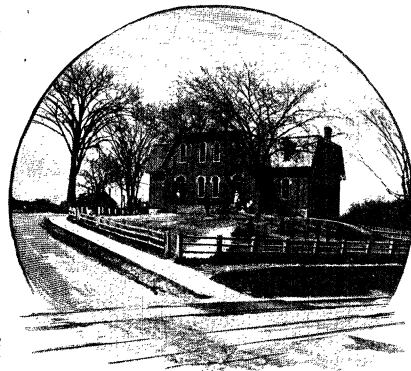


New Hampshire volunteers, a brother of Hon. William E. Chandler, —of superior ability, gifted in scholarship and prominent in his profession,—who died at Canterbury, August 12, 1883; Major Hiram F. Gerrish, of the Third division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, a brave and gallant soldier; Captain S. Judson Alexander, who died of wounds received in battle, at Snyder's Bluff, Miss., July 23, 1863; Lieutenant Hubbard T. Dudley, another brave soldier, of the Sixth New Hampshire volunteers, who died in the same year; Sergeant Thomas B. Leaver, of whose courage every schoolmate could bear witness, was killed in battle at Oak Grove, Va., June 25, 1862; George F. Sylvester was severely wounded at Cold Harbor in 1864; John W. Odlin, of infinite gifts, and one of the most versatile of musicians, of the Second and Third New Hampshire regiments, who died in 1889. The last four, "after life's fitful fever," sleep under the waving trees at Blossom Hill. The names of Doctors Alfred E. Emery, afterward in the practice of medicine at Penacook, and a valued member of the school board there; Passmore Treadwell, the son of a former secretary of state; and John H. Blodgett, son of a former editor of the *Statesman*,—all of whom served with fidelity as assistant surgeons in the navy,—must be added to those who have passed into the land of shadows.

The first attempt to establish the office of superintendent of schools was made in 1862. The members of the school board found their duties increasing so rapidly that some relief must be provided, and in the fall of that year it was arranged that Mr. Sawyer, principal of the high school, should devote a portion of his time to the lower grades of schools, and in this dual capacity he performed efficient service for two years.

District No. 3, West village, to provide better facilities for its schools, sold its two old school buildings by auction, and purchased of George W. Brown and the heirs of Levi Hutchins a large lot west of the railroad, in the summer of 1862, and in the fall of that year erected the brick building on the hill, still in use. David Abbott, Daniel Holden, Benjamin Farnum, J. D. Knight, and George W. Brown served as building committee.

The second "Bell" schoolhouse, after a service of only sixteen years, and never a favorite, was pronounced unfit for service in the spring of 1863. After several district meetings and much discussion by the people, a vote was passed for its demolition and for the erec-



West Concord School.

tion of one every way better in arrangement and appointments. It was further voted at the same meeting to purchase a lot and erect a new two-room building in the westerly portion of the district. Edward Dow, Moses Humphrey, Jeremiah S. Noyes, John H. George, and A. C. Pierce were appointed building committee. During the

removal of the old house and the erection of its successor, the schools from the former found temporary quarters in such public halls and other rooms as could be secured. The high school occupied Rumford hall, the grammar school the hall of the Natural History society in Franklin block (afterward called Sanborn's block), while the lower grades found rooms in other business blocks on Main street. The new building was completed in March, 1864. It was of brick with a Mansard roof. The first floor contained four class-rooms,—one each for primary and intermediate, and two for grammar schools.



Third High School.

The second story, designed for the high school, consisted of a main assembly room, two recitation rooms, and a room for the library. The third floor was first used as a hall, but subsequently was divided into three rooms, one for a chemical laboratory, another for an art room, and the third for the classes in physics. The cost of the building was about thirty thousand dollars, and at the time it was considered one of the best in New England. It was dedicated April 2d with appropriate exercises, including singing by a chorus under the direction of Professor B. B. Davis, an historical address by Joseph B. Walker, and a dedicatory ode written by Miss Alice Rattray, a graduate of the school, and sung by the pupils.

A wooden building of one story, containing two rooms, since called the Bow Brook schoolhouse, was built in the fall and winter of 1863-'64, under the direction of Moses Humphrey, on land purchased of Mrs. Mary Ann Stickney, near the junction of Washington and Warren streets, and first occupied in the spring of 1864.

Mr. Sawyer, of the high school, resigned his position at the end of

the spring term in 1865, after a service of eight years, and as late as 1892 was professor of Biblical and ethical science in Tougaloo university in Mississippi.

Moses Woolson, an eminent teacher of long experience, was principal, 1865-'67. He was born in Concord, December 31, 1821. He was an undergraduate of Dartmouth, leaving there in 1840 to teach in his native town. He was afterward principal of the academy in Chesterfield, Vt.; organized and taught the first high school in Vermont, at Brattleboro; then for six years had charge of the girls' high school of Bangor, Me. While organizing and carrying forward the latter with signal ability and success, he accepted a graduation tendered him from Waterville college (now Colby university), in the class of 1847. He was subsequently for thirteen years principal of the girls' high school at Portland, Me.; then became the principal of the Woodward high school of Cincinnati, O., which position he resigned to accept the principalship of the Concord high school. In 1867 he became submaster of the English high school in Boston. After some years he returned to Concord and tutored boys for college; then he engaged in the same work for ten years in Boston, where he died January 17, 1896, aged seventy-four years. In 1856, while in charge of the girls' high school in Portland, he was married to one of its graduates, Miss Abba Louisa Goold, daughter of William Goold, of Windham, Me., in whose family tomb, upon the homestead farm of the Goolds, he lies buried. Mr. Woolson was the only native of Concord who has been principal of its high school. He was assisted a part of the time while here by his wife, a woman of rare gifts and an excellent teacher.

In 1865 a two-room, one-story, wooden building for primary schools was built on the corner of Franklin and Walnut (now Rumford) streets. This was called the Franklin Street school, and it was in constant use until its removal to another location, twenty-four years later. A school was also kept in the ward house of Ward six on State street. District No. 22, on the Plains, beyond the "Break o' Day" neighborhood, built a new schoolhouse in 1867, only one room of which is now used, as the population in this, as in most of the other rural districts, has been steadily growing less for the last quarter of a century. That portion of the Plains lying between district No. 22 and the Merrimack river was annexed to Union district in 1868, mainly through the efforts of Jacob B. Rand, founder of the settlement in that locality. The schoolhouse in district No. 16, near Garvin's falls, perhaps the identical building in which Patriek Garvin, from whom the locality took its name, had taught school in the days of the French and Indian wars, had grown too old in the latter

year for further use, and the little school was held in a private house for several years thereafter.

John H. Woods (Bowdoin, 1864), of Farmington, Me., who had been teaching in the seminary at Cooperstown, N. Y., was principal of the high school for a single year, from 1867 to 1868. After leaving Concord he settled in Boston, devoting himself to music as teacher, composer, and publisher. His assistants were Misses Sarah E. Blair and Abby B. Parker. The latter afterward became the wife of Francis N. Fiske, a prominent citizen of Concord.

Joseph Dana Bartley (Williams, 1859), was principal during the next seven years, 1868-'75. He came from Hampstead, was a former teacher of the girls' high school of Newburyport, Mass., and in youthful years had been a student at the old Atkinson academy under the tutelage of William C. Todd. Mr. Bart-

ley, who was one of the best of teachers, and is still pleasantly remembered, says,—
 "My associations with fair Concord, its people, and its high school were most delightful." After leaving here he became principal of the Burlington (Vt.) high school, and later of the Bridgeport (Conn.) high school, and is now an instructor in the Edmunds high school of Burlington, Vt.

The Eastman school in East Concord was built in 1870.

Schools were kept in twenty-two districts in 1870-'71. The whole number of pupils in the latter year was two thousand three hundred and sixty-nine, of which one thousand seven hundred and twenty-seven

were in the schools of Union district, and six hundred and forty-two in the outer districts, with an average attendance of one thousand three hundred and thirteen in the former and five hundred and thirty in the latter. Union district contained, besides the high school, four grammar, six intermediate, thirteen primary, and two mixed schools.

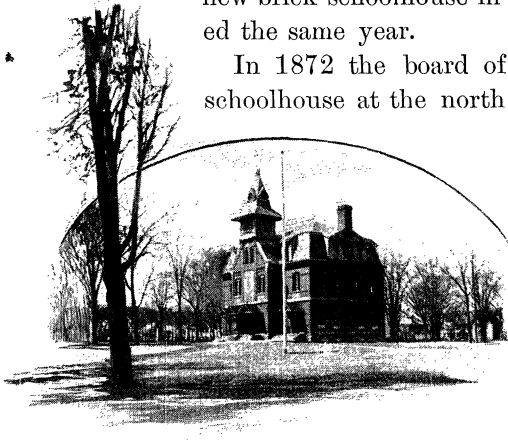
The wooden school building on the corner of State and West streets, after a service of twenty-five years, once painted white, and called the "white schoolhouse," but now dingy and weather-stained, was sold for removal in the summer of 1870, and a new brick building of four rooms, called the Penacook school, was erected on the same lot in the fall of that year; George A. Pillsbury, John Kimball, and George F. Whittredge were the building committee. A



Eastman School, East Concord.

new brick schoolhouse in district No. 1, Horse Hill, was erected the same year.

In 1872 the board of education declared the old brick schoolhouse at the north end of State street, built in 1820, antiquated, and the necessity for a new building imperative. A committee of the district purchased the Old North meeting-house lot, the most historic lot in town, and another committee—Joseph B. Walker, Enoch Gerish, and John H. George—built, in 1872-'73, the present Walker school, named in honor of the town's first settled minister. It



Walker School.

was of brick, three stories high, and contained four school-rooms. It is still in use, and bears upon its front, on a large sand-stone tablet, the following inscription:

“ON THIS SPOT, CONSECRATED TO RELIGION AND LEARNING, WAS ERECTED IN 1751, THE FIRST FRAMED MEETING HOUSE IN CONCORD, WHICH WAS USED FOR 91 YEARS AS A PLACE OF WORSHIP BY THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE TOWN, AND WITHIN WHOSE WALLS ASSEMBLED IN 1778, THE NINTH STATE CONVENTION WHICH RATIFIED THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES. FROM 1847 TO 1867, IT WAS OCCUPIED BY THE METHODIST GENERAL BIBLICAL INSTITUTE. BURNED IN 1870, ITS SITE WAS PURCHASED BY THE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT WHICH HAS CAUSED TO BE ERECTED THEREON THIS STRUCTURE, A. D. 1873.”

The present schoolhouse on the Plains was built in 1873, and the old Fair Ground school, which stood so many years on the corner of Broadway and West streets, was moved there and put in order the same year. John Kimball, Moses Humphrey, and William Shackford served as building committee for the former, and John Kimball, George A. Pillsbury, and Charles P. Sanborn for the latter. A new schoolhouse was also built in district No. 13, Sewall's falls, in the same year.

Amos Hadley, a member of the board of education, was elected to the principalship of the grammar schools in the fall of 1873. It was understood that he should also exercise a general supervision over the schools of other grades—in reality perform the duties of a superintendent of schools. The administration of Mr. Hadley, though brief, proved of much value. He delivered a course of lectures before the high school on the history of New Hampshire; instituted written examinations for promotion, and introduced the

study and practice of penmanship in schools of primary grades. He resigned after a service of a single year; and the necessary legislation authorizing the employment of a superintendent having been obtained in June, Daniel C. Allen, another member of the school board, was elected to that office at the beginning of the fall term of 1874, and continued in that position until December, 1881.

Corporal punishment was practically abolished in September of the former year, when the school board issued an order forbidding the infliction of punishment upon the head of any pupil, that no punishment shall be administered within twenty-four hours of the committal of the offense, and requiring every case of bodily punishment to be reported to the board in writing within two days of its occurrence. "Irresistible persuasion" might be termed the method of discipline employed thereafter.

John Lefavour Stanley, of Beverly, Mass., for six years principal of the high school at Bradford, Mass., was at the head of the Concord high school for seven years, 1875-'82. The average number of pupils in the school when he took charge was about one hundred and forty, and about one hundred and eighty in the year of his retirement. He was a very efficient and popular instructor.

In 1876 Miss Kate P. Blodgett, of Franklin, began service as a teacher in the higher grammar schools of this city, in which she continued for twenty-five years, with a loss of but three weeks' time. Firm in discipline but kind of heart, she will long be remembered as the dean of grammar school teachers in Concord.

The Chandler school, on the old Burgin lot, corner of South and Fayette streets, was built in 1877-'78 by James R. Hill, Charles C. Lund, and Joseph Wentworth, a committee of the district. It was named in honor of Major Timothy Chandler, a prominent citizen and a manufacturer of clocks in the early years of the century, and Abial Chandler, formerly of this town, whose generous legacy of fifty thousand dollars was the means of establishing the Chandler Scientific school, a department of Dartmouth college. With the completion and occupancy of the Chandler, the smaller schoolhouse on Myrtle street was given up for school purposes, and sold, in 1881, to the late Dr. B. S. Warren, and converted into a tenement house.

In 1879-'80, thirty-one schools were kept in Union district; three in district No. 3; four in district No. 20; and fifteen in the other districts, making a total of fifty-three in the whole city. The average number of pupils in Union district was 1,712; No. 3, 115; No. 12, 80; No. 20, 155; and the outside, or "melon-rind" districts, as they were frequently called, 140,—making a total of 2,202. "Within the last twenty-five years," said Mayor Horace A. Brown, in his inau-

gural address in 1879, "the first cost of new school buildings in this city has aggregated more than \$125,000."

A petition of Nathaniel White and others was presented to the board of education in January, 1880, asking that a check-list of legal voters of the district be made and used at the annual meeting in March; such a list was made and posted; it contained five thousand three hundred and eighty-four names. At the latter meeting a very spirited contest ensued for the election of members of the board; a variety of tickets were in circulation and three ballots were necessary for a choice, in the last of which, at an adjourned meeting, two thousand one hundred and sixty votes were cast, distributed among several candidates of both sexes, of whom Messrs. Cogswell, Thompson, and Crippen, the retiring members and candidates for re-election, had a majority, and were again elected,—a triumph for the "Old Board."

In the spring of 1881 there were six hundred and sixty-two cases of measles among pupils of the schools, involving a great falling off in regular attendance.

Daniel C. Allen, superintendent of schools and financial agent of the district, after seven years of faithful service, resigned December 1, 1881, and Warren Clark, a member of the school board, and an ex-judge of probate of this county, was chosen his successor.

Luther Batchelder Pillsbury, of Bridgewater, a former teacher of the high schools of Reading, Hopkinton, Bridgewater, and Charlestown (all in Massachusetts), was principal of the high school during the fall term of 1882.

John Fuller Kent, of Newton, Mass., who had served seven years as submaster in the high school of his native city, became principal at the beginning of the winter term in 1882. He found the school in good condition, and brought to the discharge of his new duties all the requirements for success. A man of fine physique, six feet four, well proportioned, robust in health, and with a capacity for hard work, his success was very marked.

At the annual meeting of Union district in 1884 it was voted to supply all pupils in the public schools with free text-books—such action being permissible under the statutes—and five years later, 1889, the law was made mandatory on all towns in the state, when the other districts fell into line. The cost to Union district the first year was about one thousand eight hundred dollars, two thirds of which amount was expended for the high school.

The chemical laboratory for the latter was fitted up in the summer of 1884, and the change to one daily session only, for the high school, from 8:30 a. m. to 1:30 p. m.—a new departure—went into operation after the Christmas vacation the same year.

The legislature of 1885 passed a law abolishing the district system of schools and adopting the town system, with the proviso that at the expiration of five years towns that preferred to do so might return to the old district system again. In a friendly suit brought soon afterward by Union district, the supreme court rendered a decision that the law was not applicable to special districts organized under the Somersworth act. As a consequence, Union district and districts Nos. 3, 12, and 20 continued as before, while the remaining fourteen districts were consolidated under the name of the Town district. The result of this change was to abolish a few of the smaller schools in the latter, in consequence of the greatly-diminished attendance, and convey the children to adjoining districts more populous. The little schoolhouse in No. 5, one of the primitive abodes of learning, with ideal surroundings, about which little feet oft strayed in years gone by, now stands silent and desolate, like the harp on Tara's walls, "as if its soul had fled."

Prominent among those who have served for many years on the school board of the town district may be mentioned the names of Isaac N. Abbott, George H. Curtis, Abial Rolfe, William W. Flint, William P. Ballard, Fales P. Virgin, Albert Saltmarsh, and George T. Abbott. The first, in 1902, had served for forty-four years. They well deserve and fully share the approbation of their fellow-citizens.

Warren Clark retired as superintendent of schools in the summer of 1885, and Louis J. Rundlett (Dartmouth, 1881), of Bedford, a grammar school teacher in Penacook for some years, was elected his successor.

The third story of the Walker school was fitted up for class-rooms in the winter of 1885-'86, to provide for the increase in the number of pupils in the lower grades in that section of the city.

The high school cadets were organized in December, 1886. The arms and equipments were purchased with funds amounting to over four hundred dollars, obtained by subscriptions. General A. D. Ayling was the first instructor, and the city hall was used as a drill room until the destruction of the high school building by fire in the spring of 1888, when it became necessary to use the hall for a school-room, and the cadets gave up drilling for a time. In September, 1892, the drill was resumed, with Captain James Miller, U. S. A., as instructor. At the annual school meeting, in March, 1893, the district voted to make military drill a part of the high school course of instruction, and assume the expense, and in April, following, Captain H. B. Brown was appointed drill master. In September, 1893, General Ayling was again elected instructor, and the cadets were organized as a battalion of two companies. The latter resigned in the

summer of 1897, and Captain Charles L. Mason was appointed instructor, and is still serving. Two companies of girls were organized in 1898, with light arms, and under officers of their own choosing. The capital city affords no prettier picture in summer time than a sight of these lightly-tripping young girls in bright dresses and with wavy tresses going through their maneuvers on the beautiful green lawn west of the high school building.

The cadets have had five prize drills, the first in the spring of 1888. Their uniform was regular army fatigue cap, blue short coat and white pants, until the beginning of 1897-'98, when the blue and white were changed for cadet gray.

District No. 15, Oak hill, built a new schoolhouse on the site of the old brick one in the summer of 1887, which is still in use. Sixty years ago this school numbered between forty and fifty pupils, while at the present time the whole number could be counted upon the fingers of one hand.

Manual training for boys had its beginning in the same year, an appropriation of one thousand two hundred dollars having been voted the year before to provide for its introduction. The school was opened in January with eighty-two pupils from the high and grammar schools, with George O. Cross as instructor. It was kept in the one-story school building on Spring street which had been fitted up for the purpose with carpenters' benches and the necessary wood-working tools. The loss of the high school the next year left the grammar and primary schools resident in that building without an abiding-place, and to accommodate these the manual training school was moved to rooms on the west side of Main street near Warren, where it remained until the completion of the new Kimball school building in 1890. In the latter year, both primary schools in the Spring street building were transferred to the Kimball, and the manual training school returned to its former home. Mr. Cross, after three and a half years of service, retired in the summer of 1889, and Fred E. Browne of Tilton was chosen to succeed him. Mechanical drawing was added to the course of instruction in 1890, and in November, 1891, the school was further equipped with lathes for wood turning, operated by electric power. In 1893 Mr. Browne, the second principal in chronological order, resigned, and Edward F. Gordon was chosen his successor. Pattern-making was made prominent in the work of the school in 1898, and in 1899 lathes for iron turning and boring and other machinery were added to the equipment, and elementary instruction in iron work introduced. The school met with popular favor from the beginning.

Following the practice of larger cities, an evening school was

opened at the beginning of the winter term in 1887-'88. The school was held in the city hall, the corners of which were partitioned off with curtains and used for recitation rooms. One hundred and fifty-one pupils, mostly males, whose ages varied from nine to seventy years, were enrolled with an average attendance of about fifty. Robert A. Ray, Cornelius E. Clifford, and Miss Addie P. Titcomb were teachers. The studies pursued embraced reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, history, grammar, and bookkeeping. The next winter, 1888-'89, the school was kept fifteen weeks, in the same place, with an attendance somewhat less in number and dwindling from week to week. Mr. Ray was principal, and Reuben E. Walker (now Judge Walker) and Mr. Clifford, assistants. In the winter of 1889-'90, the school was transferred to the Union Street schoolhouse, with Mrs. Rosa Akerman as principal, and Miss Sarah F. Ballard assistant. Seventy different pupils registered, seventeen of whom came only one night; soon afterward the number dropped to forty, with an average attendance of only twenty-one. At the close of the term, owing to the constantly diminishing and irregular attendance, it was deemed unprofitable to continue it longer. An evening school was also kept in Penacook in the winter of 1887-'88, when it was discontinued from similar lack of interest and irregular attendance.

Private schools, supported by tuition fees, adding greatly to the educational privileges for the young people of the town, followed closely the opening of the first free schools in 1731. The short and infrequent terms of the latter were so inadequate that the teachers employed by the town, after the close of the terms of school provided at the public expense, generally opened private schools if sufficient patronage could be assured. Following this practice, private or tuition schools were kept by James Scales, Joseph Holt, Timothy Walker, Jr., Benjamin Thompson (Count Rumford), Robert Hogg, Mr. Parkinson, and probably nearly all of the early teachers. During the Revolutionary War general destitution prevailed; the town was unwilling to burden the people with taxes, and free schools languished greatly and were probably suspended a part of the time, so that private schools became the principal, if not the sole, reliance during that period. The names of many of the earliest of these "mind builders," deserving honorable mention, are lost in oblivion; but fortunately the advertisements in the little newspapers, which began to make their appearance about 1790, reveal the names of the larger number in subsequent years, and enable us to perpetuate the story of those who did so much to mould and shape the character of succeeding generations.

Mr. Dinsmore, in September, 1791, "gives notice to parents and others in Concord and adjoining towns, who are destitute of schools for their children, that he has opened a school in the district formerly occupied by Mr. Parkinson¹ in this town. He teaches Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, and Geography at three shillings per month; scholars providing fuel for their comfort in cold weather." This teacher proves to have been Samuel Dinsmoor, of Londonderry, afterward governor of the state.

John Coffin, A. M., of this town, a famous teacher, taught in 1792.

Master Edmund Eastman, a popular teacher, kept a school in the town house in 1793 and 1794.

Mr. Stinson, "who has lived the major part of his life in France and Quebec," kept a French grammar and pronouncing school in the Mason's hall about 1800.

In May, 1802, the proprietors of the "Union schoolhouse" announce the engagement of Josiah Noyes as instructor. "The reputation of the teacher, the accommodations in the house, and its local situation they believe to be a sufficient inducement for many to give a preference to this school; terms one dollar and a half per quarter for English studies, and one dollar and seventy-five cents for Greek or Latin."

Mr. Johnson (perhaps Ebenezer Johnson, from Ellington or Willington, Conn.) kept school in this town in 1803 and 1804.

Abraham Burnham, of Dunbarton (Dartmouth college, 1804), taught in Concord between 1804 and 1807.

James Titcomb, probably from Newport, commenced keeping school in July, 1808, in the Union schoolhouse, providing instruction in all the ordinary branches, and also surveying, navigation, etc.; tuition twenty cents per week. In November of the same year a "Ladies' Academy" was opened for the instruction of young ladies in the common and higher branches, including plain and fancy needlework, tambouring, etc.

Nathaniel H. Carter kept public and private schools in this town in 1808 and 1809, living (with Richard Bartlett and Charles G. Haines, two boys sixteen to seventeen years old, who afterward became distinguished) in the bachelor home of Colonel Philip Carrigain, at the North end. Bartlett and Haines were receiving gratuitous instruction in preparation for college from Colonel Carrigain, who had previously tutored Carter. Isaac Hill also came to Concord in the latter year,—a beardless youth, barely twenty-one years old,—and made his home for a time in the same family. Carter subsequently became eminent as an editor, author, and poet, and spent

¹ Parkinson lived on the Hopkinton road (now Pleasant street) near Main, a short distance from the store of Manley & Partridge, the site of which is now occupied by Norris's bakery, and taught school in the center of the village.

some time abroad for his health, always delicate. In 1828, suffering with consumption, he visited for the last time his old home in this town, near the banks of the Turkey river, and soon after, seeking health in foreign travel, died and was buried at Marseilles, France.

Miss Ruth Hutchins, daughter of Levi Hutchins of the West village, taught school in this town in 1809 and 1810, and in 1812 married Daniel Cooledge, a bookseller and a prominent Quaker; they afterward removed to New York city, where she died in 1863, aged seventy-four years.

Mr. Boynton kept an English school in the main village in 1810.

Miss Green (probably one of the daughters of Dr. Peter Green), opened a "Young Ladies' Academy" at the town house in May of the same year. "The usual branches as well as needlework, tambouring, etc., will be taught."

Carlton Chase, of Hopkinton, afterward Episcopal bishop of the diocese of New Hampshire, taught a district school in Concord street in 1811-'12.

Mr. Johnson, probably the before mentioned Ebenezer Johnson, opened a new school, February, 1811, "informing his many friends that he will instruct young men and women in the ordinary branches, the languages, oratory, and composition; terms \$2.00 per quarter exclusive of wood."

John West, Jr., representing the proprietors of the Union school-house, announces May 11, 1812, that "A young lady from Boston, who has been an assistant to Mrs. Rowson for a number of years past, and who has from her the highest recommendations, has been engaged to teach the 'Ladies' Academy' in this town the present season. Ladies from out of town can be accommodated with genteel boarding near the school."

Allen Fisk, of Amherst (Dartmouth college, 1814), kept schools here in 1814 and 1815.

Master Johnson, oft described as "the man with the shaggy eyebrows," came again in 1816.

Addison Searle, of Temple (Dartmouth college, 1816), came to Concord as a teacher soon after graduation; he officiated as minister of the Episcopal church between 1819 and 1820, and in the latter year became a chaplain in the navy.

Charles F. Gove, of Goffstown (Dartmouth college, 1817), began teaching in Concord shortly after his graduation. He was afterward a lawyer, and about 1848 or 1849 was appointed superintendent of the Nashua and Lowell Railroad company. He died in Nashua in 1856.

Miss Boardman kept a school for young ladies in 1817; this was

Miss Nancy Boardman, daughter of Colonel Amos Boardman, of South Reading, Mass., who, in July, 1819, became the wife of Samuel Fletcher. Fourteen years later, in 1833, Mrs. Fletcher again resumed teaching, opening a school for young ladies in the dwelling-house of General Sweetser, opposite the Merrimack County bank. She was a woman of rare gifts, and was held in high esteem by her townspeople. She was president of the Female Charitable society from 1838 until 1842, and died in the latter year, aged fifty-four years.

John Rogers, of Newburyport, Mass. (Dartmouth college, 1816), kept a private school here in 1816 and 1817, and perhaps longer; he afterward became a physician in Boscawen, where he died in 1830, aged forty-two years.

James Howe, of Jaffrey (Dartmouth college, 1817), kept school in Concord in 1817-'18. He was afterward a minister in Pepperell, Mass.

Miss Frances Mary White kept a school for young ladies from 1817 to 1823, in which were taught the various branches of common and ornamental education; a few young ladies from out of town boarded at the house in which Miss White resided, and attended the school.

Miss Mehitabel Cook kept a school for young ladies, beginning May, 1819, in the hall over the Concord Lower bank, opposite the Phenix hotel; and Ahimaaz B. Simpson, probably from New Hampton, a Dartmouth undergraduate, taught school in the Union school-house in the spring and summer of the same year; this school was called the Concord academy.

About this time Miss Annie Cheever, of Bow, was teaching public and private schools in the southwest corner of the town, which afterward became district No. 23. The late Dr. Robert Hall says, "Annie Cheever taught school for many years in our section of the town, two years at least in a chamber in my father's house." Over in the East village, Miss Blanchard of Peacham, Vt., "Master Brown" from Exeter, Abiel Foster of Canterbury, Susan Smith, and Sarah Austin, eldest daughter of Aaron Austin, the innkeeper, kept schools between 1816 and 1821; the school of the last named was held in the Austin tavern.

About 1820 Dudley Leavitt kept a school in which special attention was given to chemistry and electricity. "No pains spared to render the acquisition of useful knowledge easy and pleasant to those who may attend this school." Leavitt was from Stratham or Exeter, and studied Greek and Latin with Parson Smith of Gilman-ton, and afterward settled and kept school in Meredith. His manners

were charming, and with Roger Ascham, the Yorkshire pedagogue, and tutor to Queen Elizabeth, he believed that "children are sooner allured by love than driven by beating to obtain good learning." If more of the early teachers had been like Leavitt, the world would have been a happier one to live in, and the pathway to learning a pleasanter one to follow for the boys and girls of that and subsequent generations.

George Stickney, probably son of Daniel Stickney of this town, kept a school in 1820-'21; he was at the same time chorister at the Old North meeting-house.

Jacob C. Goss, of Henniker, kept a private school in the same years; he was a graduate of Dartmouth college, 1820, and of Andover Theological seminary in 1823; he was a preacher for many years; he died in this city in 1860, and became the first permanent tenant in Blossom Hill cemetery.

Reverend J. L. Blake, A. M., of Northwood, a graduate of Brown university, 1812, and an accomplished scholar, was principal of a "Young Ladies' Literary School" kept in Concord in 1821-'23. He was assisted by Misses Mary Ayer, Laura Hastings, Rhoda M. Richmond, in the literary branches, and Monsieur Peyre Ferry, teacher of the French language. He was rector of the Episcopal church from 1819 to 1823. Dr. Bouton says,—“Captain Partridge and the Norwich cadets visited Concord, June 24, 1822, and in the evening the young ladies of Mr. Blake's school presented a standard to the cadets with appropriate addresses.” Mr. Blake was the author of "Blake's Historical Reader," and wrote or compiled during his life fifty works, chiefly as text-books for schools, several of which were published by Isaac Hill of this town, and used in the schools of this state for many years.

Peter Worden, a Quaker, from New York, taught a private school in the main village in 1822; he married Mary, a daughter of Levi Hutchins. Worden preached occasionally, and held religious services at one time in the West Concord schoolhouse; he removed soon afterward to Virginia, where he died a few years later.

Benjamin Bordman, successor to Rev. Mr. Blake, kept the "Literary Seminary" in 1823 and 1824, and perhaps later. He was assisted by Miss Bordman,—probably a sister,—and Miss Mary Ayer, daughter of Richard Ayer, who afterward became the wife of Isaac Frye Williams, a well-known merchant of the past, whose store was on the site now occupied by the Colonial block. This school was kept for a time in the new brick schoolhouse at the North end. Mr. Bordman later studied law and opened an office at Ossipee; he married Anna, daughter of Thomas Stickney, Jr., of this town. The

school, after Mr. Bordman's retirement, was continued by the Misses Ayer and Bordman until 1826, while Miss Bordman alone was keeping a female seminary here as late as the fall of 1828. A sister, Miss Lucretia Bordman, was also a teacher of private schools here for some years.

John Farmer, the historian, who came to Concord in 1821 and lived here until his death in 1838, was a tutor and prepared young men for college. The late Reverend John LeBosquet, author of the life of Dr. Farmer, for whom he had great admiration and love, was one of his earlier pupils.

George Kimball kept a school in 1823-'24, "in the schoolhouse near the meeting-house." He gave up teaching in the latter year, and was editor of the *Concord Register* from 1824 until 1827, during which time he changed the title of the paper; he afterward removed to Alton, Ill., and became prominent in the anti-slavery crusade.

Catherine Kendall, daughter of Nathan Kendall of Amherst, taught both public and private schools in the west room of the old Bell schoolhouse in 1823-'24. She was a cousin of Franklin Pierce. In 1838 she married David Steele, a lawyer of Hillsborough Bridge. She celebrated the one hundred and second anniversary of her birth May 12, 1903. Among her pupils, in 1824, were the children of Isaac Hill, Joseph Low, Sampson Bullard, and William A. Kent.

Edwin B. Stevens, of Claremont, opened a private school near the meeting-house in May, 1824; academic instruction; and board in respectable families, one dollar and thirty-three cents to one dollar and fifty cents per week. Stevens, a young man of great promise, was drowned, with his classmate, H. B. Morse, principal of Portsmouth academy, June 22, 1825, on returning to Portsmouth from a trip to the Isles of Shoals; a violent gust capsized the boat, and Stevens and Morse, with three others, were lost.

In the Iron Works district, Joseph Hazeltine, son of Ballard Hazeltine, was teaching between 1820-'24; he was a potter by trade but a good teacher as well; and Sarah Morrill, daughter of Dr. Samuel Morrill, Moses Kimball, of Hopkinton, and Charles H. Peaslee, of Gilmanton, were teaching in the East village about the same time. Peaslee was then an undergraduate; he settled in Concord, became prominent as a lawyer and politician, and held many public offices, including that of member of congress from 1847 to 1853.

Mr. Rolfe began a second term of a private school August 1, 1825. This teacher was probably Horace H. Rolfe, of Groton, a teacher of some repute, who went South a year or two later and died in Charleston, S. C., in 1831, aged thirty years.

Joseph Robinson of this town taught public and private schools in

Concord from 1825 to 1829; he was small in stature, but sprightly, capable, industrious, and energetic; he kept an excellent school and was much liked by pupils and parents, and highly commended by the committee. He afterward became prominent in politics, and held many offices of trust.

About 1826 Miss Abby Ann Muzzey, of Lexington, Mass., kept a school for young children on Main street at the South end, and a little later Miss Betsey Walker had a private school in a small building on the west side of Main street, near the corner of Fayette. This building was removed to Chandler street, when Judge Burgin came to Concord from Allenstown and built the brick building now the home of St. Mary's school. Miss Walker was a famous teacher in those days for the younger children. Major Lewis Downing, Jr., and many others, few of whom are now living, attended successively both of these schools.

A course of study in astronomy was commenced at the court house in 1828, under the instruction of an experienced teacher; misses and lads over eight years of age were invited to join the classes. More attention, it would appear, was given to this branch of study in the early part of the century than at the present time. Evening classes of boys and girls gazing skyward were quite common up to about 1850, but since that time are rarely seen. A school for instruction in stenography was kept in Concord as early as 1825-'26; Horace Steel was the teacher.

Reverend Abraham Hilliard, of Cambridge, Mass., a noted classical instructor, taught school in the old court house and in the Mason's hall, over the Lower bank, in 1827-'28. He was a fine scholar but a great snuff-taker; he never used the rod or ferule. A French teacher, named Mahew, taught a private school here for some time about this period.

Miss Sarah L. White conducted a school for the instruction of young ladies in the higher branches in rooms over the Lower bank, beginning in 1828, while in the same year the "Proprietor's School" was kept in the town house, under the charge of Nathan Brown, late preceptor of the academy at Ipswich, Mass. Mr. Brown was from Stratham, and afterward a merchant in New York. Reverend N. W. Williams, Moses Eastman, and William Kent, a committee of the proprietors, had supervision of the school.

Azariah Adams kept a private school for young ladies in the schoolhouse at the North end, commencing July 13, 1829, "providing a more thorough knowledge of the common branches than is attained in the town schools, as well as thorough instruction in the sciences and languages." The school was kept on Main street in 1830. Miss

Caroline W. Bullen was conducting a private school the same year. Miss L. H. Brigham, from Massachusetts, kept a private school for young ladies in the town hall in 1830, and in the court house in 1831, advertising a boarding school in the latter year, making a specialty of instruction in the solid branches.

Peabody A. Morse, of Haverhill, came to this town, like many others, with his college diploma, and opened a school in the town hall; subsequently the school was kept in the hall over John Esterbrook's store; after leaving here, he went to Nachitoches, La., where he engaged in the practice of law, and where he died in 1878. He was a brother of H. B. Morse, another teacher, whose death by drowning has been mentioned previously.

Mary B. Ware, of Pomfret, Vt., came to Concord as a teacher in the summer of 1830; she had previously conducted a successful school for young ladies in Norwich, in that state, but in consequence of the re-establishment of the military school in that town, removed her school to Concord in the latter year. The first term began in October, at the house of Mrs. Piper, on State street, where several young ladies from out of town were accommodated with board. The course of study included the English branches, French, Spanish, Italian, and Latin languages, painting, needlework, and music on the pianoforte, guitar, etc., while strict attention was given to the morals and manners of pupils. This school was afterward held in Leach's block and in other places, until 1833, when Miss Ware announces that she has taken a house and established a "Home Boarding School" for young ladies. In the latter, many of the young ladies of that period finished their education. The school flourished until the spring of 1835, when it was discontinued.

Chandler E. Potter of this town taught private schools in the bank building at the North end for a year or more after graduating from Dartmouth college in 1831, with instruction upon the induction plan, giving particular attention to linear and perspective drawing, chemistry, geology, mineralogy, botany, and zoölogy. Mr. Potter afterward settled in Manchester, served many years as municipal judge, and prepared the history of that city in 1855.

Reverend Daniel Lancaster, of Gilmanton,—later historian of that town,—taught school in Concord in the early thirties.

The first "Infant School," as it was called, was opened in Concord, June 22, 1829, in Stickney's long hall, between the old court house and the Stickney tavern, being connected with the latter. Mrs. Ruby Bridges Preston, who came here from Andover, Mass., was teacher, and Miss Ann M. Abbott, assistant. It began with about thirty children between the ages of two and six years; the

tuition for the first quarter, it was promised, should not exceed two dollars and forty-five cents per pupil. The school was like the German kindergarten system of schools instituted by Friedrich Froebel in 1837, and was thus described: "Each session opens with simple exercises in which the little ones take part. They first listen to scripture reading by the teacher, who asks them many questions concerning it; little hymns are then sung, in praise of Jehovah; after which they clasp their hands, close their eyes, and recite the Lord's prayer or some little verse like that beginning,—

‘ Holy Father, please to hear
Children's praise and humble prayer,’

after which they attempt easy reading; a bit of mental arithmetic, demonstrated by the use of the arithmometer, a device still used in primary schools; a small globe is also used to impress upon the minds of the little ones the outlines of geography. They are also taught to spell their names; describe the objects in the room, tell what they are made of and their uses; also the names of animals, and their classification. The exercises are frequently interspersed with singing, marching, clapping of hands, playing games, etc., and constantly varied so as to make one continuous series of amusements. The children become accustomed to learn principles from observation, and thus obtain many ideas from oral instruction or familiar conversation with the teacher, instead of committing to memory a string of words which they cannot comprehend." Mrs. Preston was a motherly-appearing woman of middle age, kind-hearted, and fond of children; she taught the little ones to call her "Grandma," a custom young kindergarten teachers of the present time would no doubt be permitted to follow, if so inclined. This school gradually developed into a sub-primary school a few years later, and in 1834, and thereafter, was held in the house occupied by Mrs. Preston as a residence—a small yellow cottage which stood upon the lot now occupied by the home of Charles H. Day, on the east side of Main, opposite Court, street. Mrs. Preston afterward kept a Lancastrian school, and was teaching as late as 1838 or later; she died in 1881, aged eighty-two years. Mrs. Marston, an elderly lady, afterward kept a school in the hall in Stickney's tavern.

Dr. Joseph B. Eastman, of Salisbury (Dartmouth college, 1821), a son of Moses Eastman, formerly of this town, kept private schools between 1831 and 1834, in a hall over C. C. Hodgdon's market and restaurant on the east side of Main, a few rods south of the present Bridge, street. Eastman had studied law and medicine, and practised as a physician for some time at Waterford, Me., before coming here. Enoch and George Bullard, the Low and the Downing boys, were

pupils in this school. He afterward kept at the North end awhile, and his father, who was clerk of the courts and lived in the south half of the Carrigain house, kept school for his son one or more seasons. After leaving here Eastman studied divinity at Andover, and later was a Presbyterian minister in New York state until 1856, when he resumed teaching, taking charge of the academy at Windsor, N. Y., where he continued until his death in 1864.

Lydia C. Farnum, a daughter of Ephraim Farnum of this town, kept a school for misses with academic instruction in 1832-'33. She possessed an unusual aptitude for teaching, but fell a victim to consumption and died in 1834, aged twenty-seven. Susan Chandler, afterward the wife of William Pecker, kept a private school about 1832—and Elvira Potter in 1833—in a little hat shop, formerly belonging to Benjamin Kimball, on the Appletown road, about half a mile beyond the Old Fort cemetery at East Concord. Some of her pupils are still living. Elizabeth McFarland, a daughter of the former pastor of the First church, kept a school for girls in the court house in 1833; and after the opening of the academy was a teacher in the latter for some time. W. A. Dunklee, of Hanover (Dartmouth college, 1832), taught a private school in the court house in 1833-'34. He married Eliza Cady, of Concord, studied medicine, became a dentist, and settled in Virginia. James M. Putney, of Warren (Dartmouth college, 1835), kept a school for young ladies and gentlemen, who wished to qualify themselves for teachers, at the court house in 1835. He subsequently taught school at Richmond, Ky., studied divinity, and had begun preaching at Richmond when his death occurred, June 27, 1841. Dudley S. Palmer, of this town, taught several terms of school between 1834 and 1837; a part of the time the school was kept in St. Thomas's chapel, a hall used by the Episcopalians, which stood on the present site of the opera house. Palmer was afterward an editor, and became an ardent advocate of temperance reform, devoting much of his time and talents in efforts to suppress the liquor traffic. Daniel J. Hoyt, son of Daniel N. Hoyt, a former landlord of the Washington House, and a medical student with Dr. Renton, kept a private school in the old jury room at the court house in 1838-'39. He entered upon the practice of medicine in the East village in December, 1840, removed to Manchester, where he died in 1847, but was buried in the Old North cemetery in this town. H. W. Carter, an experienced teacher, kept a school for boys in 1840 and 1841, in the basement of the Old South church, fitting for college or commercial pursuits. The school was a popular one and well patronized. Alexander H. Kent (Dartmouth college, 1841), a son of George Kent of this town, kept a

“classical school” in 1842. He afterward removed to Troy, N. Y., where he died in 1844, in his twenty-third year.

In 1833 a quintette of young ladies of Scotch nationality, Misses Elizabeth, Abigail, Sarah, Ann, and Emily Kirkwood, sisters, came to Concord, and in 1834 purchased a lot of land on the southeast corner of State and Warren streets, and built a house in which Ann and Emily, who were teachers, opened a school for girls, with instruction in the English branches, and making a specialty of penmanship, plain and fancy sewing, and embroidery, in which they were very proficient. Specimens of their beautiful handwriting, resembling copper-plate engraving, are still in the possession of some of their former pupils. These young ladies were accomplished and refined, and made many friends. The school was an excellent one of its kind, the instruction thorough, and the patronage flattering. After seven or eight years of prosperity it was given up. The Kirkwood property was sold to Dr. Renton, June 15, 1843, and after changing hands several times was purchased by John Kimball, in 1849, and has since been his home.

John J. Sanborn, of Epsom (Phillips Exeter, 1821), kept a private school in 1834, in the little hall in the second story of the brick block at the North end, now occupied by Larkin's store.

Miss Sally B. Parker kept a private school in the front room of the brick house on Centre street—then her home, and now the residence of Nathan W. Stevens—almost continuously between about 1830 and 1850. The room was lathed but not plastered, but scrupulously clean and neat, and pupils were expected to furnish their own chairs. The teacher, tall and prim, sat at a little table with a “tickler” of frightful possibilities conveniently near, but was ever considerate in its use. She was dressed in the plainest attire, a little “scrumpy” in petticoats, and was of grave and solemn mien; in all the time passed under her tutelage, one never heard her speak a word in jest or saw a smile upon her face. She was, nevertheless, devoted to her work, and faithful and patient in the care of her little flock—ever striving to store their minds with useful knowledge and pious precept. Among the pupils remembered, Major Henry McFarland, John C. Thorne, Mrs. Helen (Dudley) Walker, and others still survive. To the lasting credit of Miss Parker, be it said that in all those years in which the odious fashion of wearing hoop-skirts was all-prevailing, she was the one woman in Concord who stood her ground, single-handed and alone, and refused to bedeck her person with that article of dress. Her figure, for the firm stand she took, deserves to be perpetuated in life-size statue of enduring bronze.

Susan S. Ela, a sister of George W. Ela, opened a select school for

young ladies in the hall over the Lower bank, September 2, 1835, with instruction in the various English branches and the French language; she was endowed with excellent ability, and possessed a highly finished education and many other accomplishments. Meeting with a liberal and constantly increasing patronage, the school was afterward removed to the Baptist vestry; and in 1838 a further removal was made to the Charles Walker house, on the southwest corner of Franklin and Main streets, when it became a boarding-school, and where it continued until the summer of 1846. In the latter year Miss Ela purchased the former residence of George Kent, on the north side of Pleasant street, opposite the asylum grounds, described at that time as "a country residence, overlooking the main village"; it was then one of the most stately and imposing residences in town. The grounds were spacious, handsomely laid out, and beautifully shaded; while well back from the street, embosomed among the trees, was the old mansion house, three stories high. The premises were enclosed by a tall and pretentious-looking fence, with an arched gateway, over which, in semicircular form, were the words "Home Boarding School." It was an ideal place, and here, for a decade, were gathered in the pursuit of knowledge many of the daughters of this and other New Hampshire towns. The beauty of this delightful spot, in the early fifties, lingers in one's memory like a pleasant dream; and on summer afternoons when the young ladies were engaged in out-of-door pastimes, youthful and admiring eyes oft surveyed the charming scene with envious longings divided between the quiet elegance of the place and the beauty of its occupants. In 1854 Miss Ela married, the school was given up, and the property sold to the late Amos Dodge. Twenty-two years later, 1876, the old residence, including a considerable portion of the grounds, was purchased for the establishment of a "Home for the Aged." As the needs of the latter increased, the old building was removed in 1892, and a new one erected in its place. But a few years after Miss Ela's marriage and departure, sad tidings came of her tragic death in Lynn, Mass., by being thrown from a carriage in a runaway accident.

Clarissa J. Kimball taught private schools in Concord in 1837; and from 1838 to 1840, or later, was preceptress of the Goffstown Female seminary. Miss Martha M. Chadbourne, daughter of Dr. Thomas Chadbourne, kept a school for young ladies in 1842-'44; her sister Ann was associated with her as instructor in music. This school was kept on the south side of Montgomery street near Main a part of the time, but was given up in December of the latter year, when Miss Martha became the wife of Reverend John Haven, of Stoneham, Mass.

In the long, low cottage in the rear of the first South church building, which was burned when the church was destroyed, the Misses Abigail and Mary Green, probably from Bow, opened a private school for young children about 1834, which was continued for several years with excellent success.

Mrs. Sarah (Allison) French kept private schools in the court house, in the Methodist vestry, and in her own home on State street for many years, beginning in 1842 or 1843. She was the widow of Reverend Henry S. G. French, of Boscawen. Miss Mary Ann Allison, sister of Mrs. French, was also a teacher of private schools here for several years; both were sisters of Frederic Allison. Miss Elizabeth Bond, sister of Alonzo Bond, the musician, kept a private school for girls over the store of Currier & Knox on Main street, and afterward in the Baptist vestry, 1842-'44.

About 1842 Miss Maria L. Eastman, a daughter and one of thirteen children of Robert Eastman, of the East village, began her life's vocation as a teacher of young ladies, in this town. She was admirably fitted for her profession, and her school was a popular and successful one. She taught first in the hall over the Lower bank, and afterward in a dwelling-house on Montgomery street near Main, in which several pupils from abroad were accommodated with board; among the latter, in 1847, was Edna Dean Proctor, then of Henniker, afterward famous as poet and author, who, during her residence here, published some of her earliest poems in the columns of the *Statesman*. Miss Eastman was assisted a part of the time by Misses Martha M. and Ann Chadbourne; and Amos Hadley, then studying law, was associated with her for a time in the last-named place, Mr. Hadley having also a class of young men in Greek and Latin. Prior to 1850 Miss Eastman removed from Concord to Philadelphia, establishing a school at Aston Ridge, near the latter city. In 1856 she became the principal and owner of Brooke hall, an Episcopal boarding-school in Media, Penn., which she conducted with great success for nearly thirty-five years, winning for herself an envied reputation as an educator, and a competence. Miss Harriet F. Gault, formerly of Concord, was an assistant in Miss Eastman's school for many years, and on the death of the latter, in 1895, Miss Gault was appointed post-mistress of Media, through the favor of Mrs. McKinley, a former pupil of the school, and wife of the late president.

Mrs. Harriet M. Wood, wife of Reverend Henry Wood, kept a select school for girls in the Colonel Kent house, on Pleasant, near State, street between 1844 and 1847. Mr. Wood, who had been a Dartmouth tutor, gave instruction in the languages, and Miss M. A. Rogers, of Boston, who had been a popular teacher in the Concord

academy, was associated with them as assistant. The school was not a large one, and had been started in part for the education of the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Wood. Among the pupils were Mary (Thornton) Greeley of Nashua, and Mrs. Elizabeth (Upham) Walker of this city. Rev. Mr. Wood was the founder and editor of the *Congregational Journal*, and United States minister at Syria and Palestine during the administration of President Pierce; and Mrs. Wood was a lineal or collateral descendant of Matthew Thornton, one of New Hampshire's signers of the Declaration of Independence.

George S. Barnes, of Charlotte, Vt., kept the town school in district No. 18 in the winter of 1852-'53, and in 1854 opened a private high school for both boys and girls in Natural History hall, assisted by Miss Sarah L. Meeker, whom he married in the fall of that year, and Miss Ellen M. Doe, teacher of music. The school was largely attended, and was continued in 1855 and 1856. Miss Sarah J. Sanborn was an assistant for one or more terms in the latter years.

Miss Josephine Pickering, of Barnstead, came to Concord in 1852 as a grammar school teacher, and taught the schools in districts Nos. 9, 10, and 11, until 1855. In the latter year, and until 1858, she kept a private school for young ladies in Hill's hall in a building then standing on the present site of State block, on Main street. Miss Annette Eastman was first associated with Miss Pickering as an assistant in the private school, and subsequently Miss Susan Farnum. Miss Pickering was a sister of Hazen Pickering, and in 1859 became the wife of Leland A. Smith, of this city.

Miss Dora L. Merrill, of Stratham, came to Concord in 1857 and opened a family boarding-school in the house of Mrs. Foster, 64 State street. The school began with a half dozen pupils, but the applications for admission the next year were so numerous that a removal was had to the Chadwick house, next south of the building now owned by the New Hampshire Historical society on Main street. A school-room was secured in the second story of the latter building, and a covered passageway between the second stories of the two buildings provided. The school was an excellent one and became very popular, having as many students from other towns in New Hampshire and Vermont as the house would accommodate, while a considerable number of Concord girls attended as day pupils. Among the latter still living were: Mrs. Caroline (Roby) Murdock, Mrs. Sarah (Adams) Ordway, Mrs. Hattie (Pecker) Carter, and others. In 1864 Miss Merrill purchased the dwelling-house, 54 Green street, to which was added a school-room where the school was carried on till 1869, when the principal retired, and the school was given up. Among the assistant teachers employed were Misses Palmer, Hobbs,

Smith, Josephine Dudley, Mrs. E. J. and L. B. Merrill, and Miss E. E. Brown, who the last year officiated as associate principal.

John A. Putney, of this town (Dartmouth college, 1856), kept a private school in 1857-'58, with upwards of seventy pupils in attendance. Miss Susan M. Tracy was preceptress in 1857 and Miss Clara K. Walker in 1858.

Mary L. Burgin came to this town with her father, Hall Burgin, about 1835. She was a lady of much ability, and was educated at the celebrated school of Mrs. Emma Willard at Troy, N. Y. Her father died in 1844, and a little later she opened a private school in her home on Fayette, near South, street, the site now occupied by the Chandler school, which was continued until about 1870. In this school the children of Governor Gilmore and other prominent families from the southerly portion of the city received their early education. About 1885 Miss Burgin removed to Woburn, Mass., frequently returning to Concord to visit old friends. It was during one of these visits, while passing down the steps from a neighbor's house, May 12, 1891, she suddenly fell and a few moments later expired, in the eighty-first year of her age. Funeral exercises were held at the Unitarian church, and interment was made in the family lot in the Minot enclosure in the Old North cemetery. Miss Burgin was very prominent in the institution of the "May Festival," for many years observed by the Unitarian society.

Miss Sarah A. Gerould, of Canaan, taught a select school for young ladies in Natural History hall, in 1860-'61. She married, in the latter year, Isaac N. Blodgett of Franklin, afterward chief justice of the supreme court of New Hampshire.

The Misses Hannah N. and Annie F. Bridge, Episcopalians, from Augusta, Me., kept a select school for young ladies in the Judge Carpenter house on North Main street, and afterward, from 1876 to 1880, in the William Butterfield house, then standing on the corner of State and Capitol streets. This school had an average of forty day pupils, and a small boarding department, but was given up in 1880 when the Misses Bridge removed to Geneva, N. Y., to take charge of the De Lancey school for girls, which they transferred in 1890 to Miss Mary S. Smart, who had been their first assistant teacher in Concord. In 1892 they returned to Augusta, Me., where Miss Annie died in July, 1896.

Mrs. Frances Bellows Sanborn, daughter of former Chief Justice Bellows, and wife of Charles P. Sanborn, kept a private school in her home, corner of Pleasant and State streets, from 1882 to 1888, and later received classes of ladies for the study of English and French history and general literature. From 1890 to 1896 she con-

ducted an art class; several gentlemen of this city gave lectures before this class. An enthusiasm for further study was here aroused, which doubtless, in a measure, led to the formation of the Woman's club, to which the city has been indebted for musical concerts of the highest order, and lectures on topics now claiming the attention of the thinking world, by the best talent of the country.

Prior to about 1860 private schools were considered superior to the public schools, but since that time the latter have been preferred.

The year 1888 was an eventful one. The high school building and the Unitarian church adjoining were consumed by fire on the 25th of April of that year. The fire, which started in the chemical laboratory in the third story, was first discovered in the forenoon, while the students of the high school were at recess. The latter, together with the pupils from the several graded schools on the street floor, to the number of more than three hundred and fifty, all escaped without injury, and some were able to save their books. The height of the fire above the ground, and the inadequate capacity of the water mains in the vicinity, rendered the efforts of the firemen unavailing, and both buildings burned with astonishing rapidity. The day was a cold one for the time of year, a raw wind blowing from the north, and when the roof of the schoolhouse and the spire of the church fell, great brands of flame were carried in a southerly direction and several houses near by and some quite remote were set on fire, but by prompt action were saved from serious damage. The building had been in use a little more than twenty-four years, and had associated with it many interesting events and tender memories. The district school meetings, some of which had been very animated, and the graduating exercises of the school, were held for many years in the hall which at first occupied the whole of the third floor.

Prominent among the many efficient teachers who rendered long and faithful service in this building or its predecessor may be mentioned: Misses Martha Eaton of Candia, 1845-'50; Sarah J. Sanborn, 1851-'55; Clara E. Palmer, 1851-'61; Mary W. Chickering, 1851-'59; Martha J. Page, 1846-'51; Ann E. Page, 1850-'54; Susan R. Moulton, 1851-'66; Myra T. Elliot, of Canterbury, 1854-'59; H. Adelaide Munroe, 1854-'66; Elizabeth S. Goodwin, 1854-'60; Mrs. S. R. Crockett, 1856-'66; Miss Phila M. Sanborn, 1856; Carrie A. George, 1856-'59; Orra A. George, 1856-'63; E. Frances Ordway, 1856-'67; Hattie S. Edmunds, 1857-'63; Lydia E. Tonkin, 1857-'64; Isabel and Malvena Nutter, and many others.

The loss of the old schoolhouse necessitated immediate provision for the temporary accommodation of the five schools thus rendered homeless, and the erection of a new building. The board of educa-

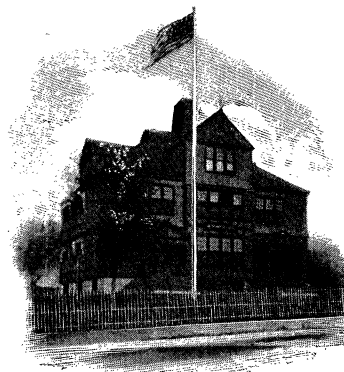
tion was convened on the afternoon of the same day, while the smoke was still rising from the smouldering ruins. The high school was assigned to the city hall, which it continued to occupy for nearly two years. The room was not well adapted for school purposes, but the location was an ideal one and the grounds spacious and charming. The old Union and Spring street houses were reopened for the lower grade schools, and a second room fitted up for occupancy in the Bow Brook school. A preliminary meeting of citizens was held on the 28th instant, and a legal meeting of the district on the 10th of May. The former was held in the city hall and was largely attended. After a general discussion, a committee of fifteen was appointed, consisting of the nine members of the school board, together with Messrs. John Kimball, Sylvester Dana, Samuel C. Eastman, Irving A. Watson, Nathaniel E. Martin, and Henry W. Clapp, to consider the erection of one or more new school buildings, and to suggest desirable locations for the same, and report at the special meeting. At the latter, the committee made a report recommending the erection of two new buildings, one for the accommodation of the high school, and another for the grammar and lower grades, in some other locality. An adjourned meeting was held May 24th, at which two reports were submitted by the committee, one signed by eight and the other by seven of its members. The former recommended the building of a new high school on the old lot, at a cost of between forty and fifty thousand dollars; the latter declared their belief that the shape of the old lot (the length of which was more than four times its width) rendered it unsuitable and inadequate for the future needs of the school, and suggested, for economic and other reasons, the expenditure of a few thousand dollars upon the city hall, to render it more convenient for use for a time, and to postpone the erection of a distinctive high school building until some more eligible location could be agreed upon, using the old lot for a school building for grammar and lower grades, for which it seemed better adapted. A great variety of other suggestions were offered, but after much discussion at that and subsequent meetings, it became evident that a majority were in favor of a new building on the old lot, exclusively for the high school, and a new and modern building of ample proportions for the lower grade schools, not far removed. The location finally agreed upon for the latter was on the corner of Spring and Short streets, then occupied by dwelling-houses belonging to the heirs of the late Peter Murphy, David Haselton, Miss Carrie Wyatt, and others.

A building committee for the high school was chosen May 29th, viz.: John Kimball, Henry J. Crippen, Edson J. Hill, John E. Robertson, and William M. Chase; and subsequently the building of the

grammar school was left with the same committee. Another meeting of the district, called at the request of petitioners, was held September 6th, to see if the district would agree to an exchange of lots with the Unitarian society, the latter making a proposition to divide the two lots by a north and south center line instead of east and west lines as now divided,—giving to the society the half of said lots fronting on State street, and to the district the other half fronting on Green street, with the vestry belonging to the society, which was saved from the fire,—the society to receive fourteen thousand dollars in exchange. The meeting, after discussing the proposition briefly, adjourned until September 13th, when the proposition was voted down, two hundred and twelve voting for and three hundred and forty-nine against it; and the building committee proceeded to the discharge of its duties.

The school of the Sacred Heart, the Catholic parochial school, on the corner of State and Thorndike streets, was first opened Monday, September 10, 1888, with six Sisters of Mercy from Mount St. Mary's convent in Manchester as instructors, and about two hundred and fifty pupils, a majority of whom were girls, in attendance. The school embraced primary, intermediate, and grammar grades. The course of study was made to correspond very nearly with that of the public schools. Sister Fidelis was principal, with Sisters Augustine, Borromen, and Berchmens assistants. The school has been continued to the present time, with a somewhat increased attendance in later years.

The urgent need of additional school room at the North end was presented to Union district at its annual meeting in March, 1889, and ten thousand dollars appropriated to furnish the necessary relief, by the enlargement of existing buildings or the construction of new ones. The method of procedure was left with the board of education. The latter appointed a committee of its members—Messrs. Ordway, Clark, and Cogswell—who recommended the erection of a new four-room building on the Franklin street lot; the smaller building thereon to be removed to the northerly section of the district to accommodate the needs in that neighborhood, and relieve the pressure at the Walker school. The board, approving of the suggestions, authorized the committee to carry their plans into effect. The construction of a wooden building was made necessary by the limited appropriation, and because a frame building could be made



Franklin School.

ready for use in much less time than if built of brick. Work was begun June 1, and the house was finished in six months, and dedicated the 7th of December with appropriate exercises. The building cost twelve thousand five hundred and nineteen dollars.

The Clancy lot at Fosterville, near Blossom Hill cemetery, was purchased and the old Franklin street building removed thereto, and fitted up for permanent use. It was named the Tahanto school, to perpetuate the memory of Tahanto, a chief of the Penacook Indians, said to have been friendly to the whites.

Charles P. Sanborn, a prominent lawyer and a member of the school board, 1874-'83, died June 3, of this year (1889), aged fifty-five years and eight months.

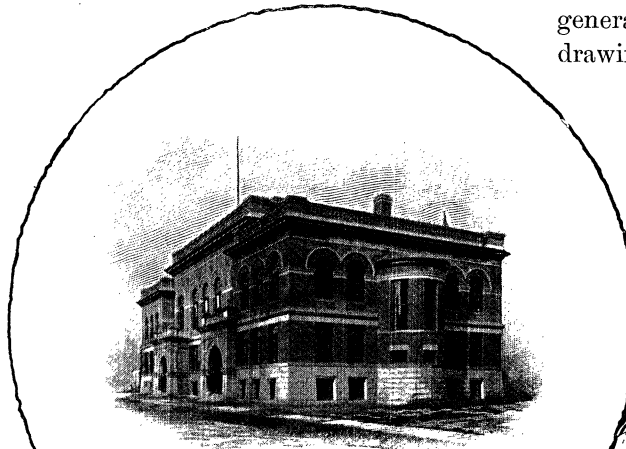
The same year the school board voted to name the new grammar school building on Spring street, in process of construction, the Kimball school, in honor of John Kimball. This building was completed in March, 1890, and dedicated with brief exercises on the 25th of that month. It was built by E. B. Hutchinson, contractor, from plans made by Edward Dow, architect. Its cost, including land and furnishings, was about sixty thousand dollars.

The new high school building was completed in the summer of 1890, at a cost of about eighty-two thousand dollars. The plans were designed by Merrill & Cutler, of Lowell, Mass. Mead, Mason & Co. were the contractors, and the brick work was done by A. C. Ferrin. The building was dedicated the 4th of September, and first occupied by the school the week following. The dedicatory exercises consisted of a prayer by Rev. Dr. Ayer, addresses by Joseph B. Walker and James W. Patterson, and a poem by Miss Louisa Prescott of the graduating class of 1890.

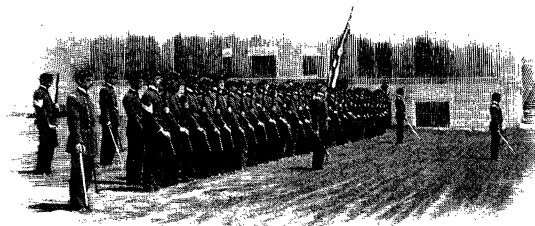
Annual elocutionary or prize-speaking contests, open to the pupils of the high and grammar schools, were inaugurated in March, 1889, and have been held regularly each year since that time. The funds to meet expenses and pay the cash prizes given, have been obtained wholly from admission fees, the profits constituting a guaranty fund to provide against possible loss in any future year. Each season something has been added to this fund. The total receipts from admission fees, up to 1901, have been two thousand six hundred and twenty-three dollars, or an average of two hundred and eighteen dollars annually. Interest, three hundred and forty-one dollars; total receipts, two thousand nine hundred and sixty-four dollars. The total expense has been six hundred and twenty-four dollars, and prizes, including books given to pupils selling tickets, to the value of six hundred and eighty-five dollars, have been distributed, leaving a balance on hand of one thousand six hundred and fifty-five dollars as a guarantee for future contests.

Mrs. Mary Parker Woodworth, a graduate of Vassar college (1870), was elected a member of the board of education in April, 1890, and by subsequent re-elections served until 1899. She was the first of her sex to be elected to membership in the board of Union district, though Miss Ella R. Holden was elected in West Concord in 1889.

Some attention had been given to drawing in the schools for at least fifty years, but it was generally confined to map-drawing until about 1870, after which evidence of greater interest began to be manifested in the art of delineation and free-hand drawing. In September, 1873, it was first



Present High School.



High School Cadets.

made a regular branch of study, and Pilkington Jackson, an English artist of much ability, was employed to give two lessons a week to the teachers. Mr. Jackson served a year or two, and in 1876 Miss Ada L. Cone was engaged to give instruction regularly in all the schools. Miss Cone served five years, and was followed by Miss M. Louise Field of Boston from 1881 to 1882; Miss Kate E. Rand of Lisbon, 1882-'83; Miss Anna M. Swanton, 1884; Mrs. Annie E. Dupee, 1885-'90; Miss Charlotte J. Emmins, 1890-'92; Miss Emile

E. Harding of Cambridge, Mass., 1892-1900; and Miss Grace L. Bell of Darien, Conn., 1900-'02.

A training-school for primary teachers was established in the fall of 1888 to provide a supply of teachers properly trained for schools of the lower grades. It was opened in the old Franklin street one-story building in September, transferred to the new four-room Franklin school in December of the same year, and again removed to the new Dewey school in the fall of 1901. The school was begun and has continued under the direction of Miss Addie F. Straw.

As early as 1890, and perhaps earlier, several of the states passed laws authorizing school boards to provide flags of the United States for each schoolhouse within their respective districts. This movement had its origin in the councils of the Grand Army of the Republic, and arose from a desire to inspire the youth of our country with patriotism, and keep alive and encourage the growth of a fervid and abiding love for our free institutions. The Grand Army post of this city took a lively interest in the matter, and through the efforts of Mrs. Fanny Minot and others, officials of the auxiliary branches of that organization, flags were presented to several of the newer schools, while the school boards promptly supplied the other buildings, so that in a short time a flag was flying over every school building in the city. This pleasing custom has been continued to this day.

A law for the observance of Arbor Day was passed a little later, and the schools manifested a gratifying interest in the subject for a few years. A mulberry tree was set out in the rear of the Merrimack, and maples and elms at the Franklin, Kimball, Cogswell, and other schools, some of which were named for members of the school board or favorite teachers. The custom of observing the day led, in many instances, to further tasteful ornamentation of school grounds with shrubbery and blossoming plants.

The singing school was one of the first social and educational institutions of the town, and vocal music has been a feature, more or less prominent, in the schools from a very early date. The choristers of the First church, though not professional teachers, gave gratuitous instruction at times to those musically inclined. Among the latter were Deacon John Kimball, Captain David Davis, and others. The first society for the study of music, mentioned by Dr. Bouton, was organized in 1793, with an executive committee composed of Captains Jonathan Eastman and Timothy Chandler, Lieutenants David Davis and Amos Abbot, Jr., and Levi Abbot. Asa McFarland, then a student in Dartmouth college, and an able teacher of psalmody, was employed as instructor during the college vacations.

In this capacity the afterward pastor of the First church made his first introduction to the town. The teacher's salary was raised by subscription, and all were invited to share the advantages of a free singing school. The Concord Musical society was incorporated June 15, 1799. This society received a gift of five hundred dollars, as an endowment fund, in 1801, from Joseph Hall, "from a desire to encourage and promote the practice of sacred musick in Concord." Its officers, in 1836, were Samuel Fletcher, president, William Gault, secretary, and Benjamin Parker, librarian. The Central Musical society was another organization instituted in 1808, of which Rev. Dr. McFarland was president at one time, and Stephen Ambrose, secretary. The Concord Mutual was still another society which, beginning as early as 1806, flourished several years. Mr. Wilson was one of the earliest teachers who kept a popular singing-school in the town house in 1809 and 1810, beginning at 5 o'clock p. m., for they kept early hours in those days when the tallow dip was probably the only artificial light to be had. Henry E. Moore, another famous teacher, opened a school in 1828 in the hall over the Upper bank, afterward kept in the town hall, and in the concert hall in Stickney's block, and other places. Mr. Moore kept this school for many years, offering instruction in vocal and instrumental, sacred and secular, music, with practice on the organ, pianoforte, and other instruments,—attracting a considerable patronage from other towns, and holding state musical conventions in Concord for several years. Among other prominent teachers may be mentioned Nathaniel D. Gould, and Mr. Batchelder from Hanover, in 1834-'35; George Wood, a fine tenor singer and an experienced teacher, from about 1837 until his death in 186—; Alonzo Bond, from 1838 to 1840 or later, who was afterward leader of the famous "Bond's Cornet Band," of Boston; Mrs. Emmons from Boston, from 1838 until 1845; F. Hazelton, 1843-'44; Reuben Mason, 1850; Asa L. Drew, John and Joseph H. Jackman, J. Holmes Morey, John C. Lane, and "Uncle Ben Davis," who died November 26, 1900, after a service of more than fifty years as a teacher of vocal music in this city.

Prior to 1840, or perhaps a little later, the singing in the lower grades of schools was largely by rote. The regular teacher was the only instructor, and few of the pupils were able to read music by sight, so that all depended upon the proficiency of the teacher. If she was musical, the singing, even with the limited instruction she was able to give, was frequently good and greatly enjoyed; but in rooms in which the conditions were less favorable, the children were apt to sing with loud, discordant voices, and with little evidence of cultivation, so that in some of the schools it was indifferent, in others